

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 67 and amend claims 66, 68, 72-75 and 77-81 as follows:

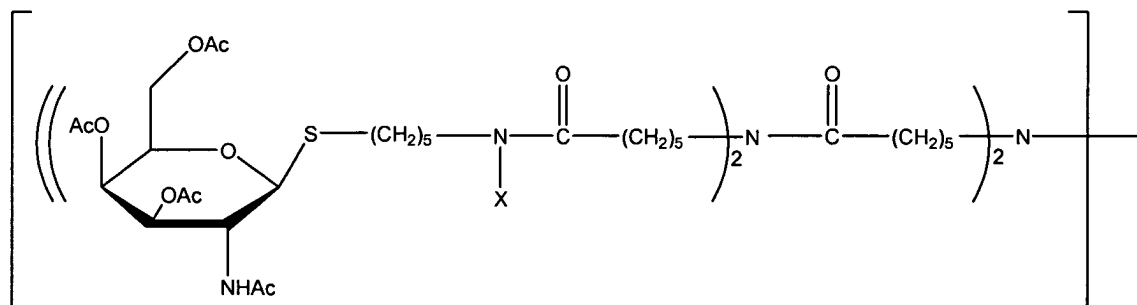
Claims 1-65 (Cancelled).

66. (Currently amended) A conjugate comprising:
an annexin; ~~and~~
a N_xS_y chelating compound, wherein x is an integer from 2-4 and y is 1-4, or a N₄
chelating compound; and
a hexose moiety recognized by a mammalian liver receptor, wherein the hexose is
conjugated to the annexin directly or via the chelating compound and the chelating
compound is conjugated to the annexin directly or via the hexose moiety,
wherein the annexin is not modified to provide an accessible sulfhydryl group to which
the hexose moiety or the chelating compound is conjugated.

Claim 67 (Cancelled).

68. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim ~~66~~ 67, wherein the hexose moiety
comprises a cluster containing at least three hexose residues connected in a branched
configuration, and wherein the cluster is conjugated via a single point of attachment to the
annexin.
69. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 68, wherein the hexose residues are
independently selected from the group consisting of galactose, mannose, mannose 6-phosphate,
N-acetylglucosamine, pentamannosyl phosphate, glucose, N-galactosamine, N-
acetylgalactosamine, thioglycosides of galactose, D-galactosides and glucosides.
70. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 69, wherein the hexose residue is N-
acetylgalactosamine.

71. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 70, wherein the hexose residue is N-acetylgalactosamine, and wherein the cluster comprises:



wherein X is H or CH₃.

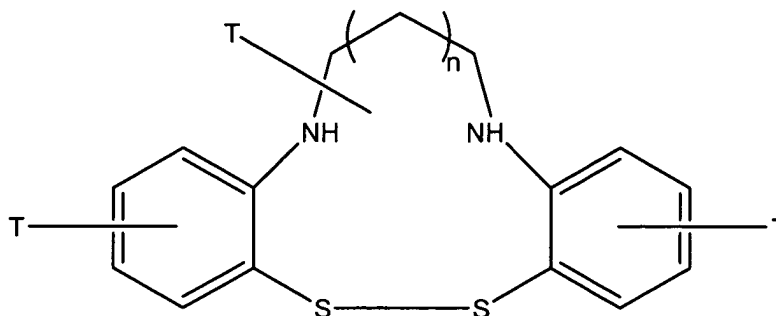
72. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim 66 ~~or 67~~, wherein the annexin is annexin V.

73. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim 66 ~~or 67~~, wherein the chelating compound comprises a N₄ chelating compounds.

74. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim 66 ~~or 67~~, wherein the chelating compound comprises a N₃S chelating compound.

75. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim 66 ~~or 67~~, wherein the chelating compounds comprises a N₂S₂ chelating compound.

76. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 75, wherein the chelating compound has the following structure:



wherein T is H, CH₃ or a functional group for conjugating an annexin or a hexose moiety and n is 0 or 1.

77. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim ~~66~~ 67, wherein the conjugate has the following configuration:

annexin – hexose – chelating compound.

78. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim ~~66~~ 67 wherein the conjugate has the following configuration:

annexin – chelating compound – hexose.

79. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim ~~66 or 67~~ 66 or 67, wherein the conjugate further comprises a linker recognized by a liver enzyme such that the linker is enzymatically cleavable.

80. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim ~~66 or 67~~ 66 or 67, wherein the conjugate further comprises a cleavable linker which is selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, polysaccharides, polyamino acids, hydroxyalkyl acrylamides, polyethylene glycol based hydrophilic polymers, biodegradable polymers containing an ether or ester linkage, dextran or hemisuccinyl esters.

81. (Currently amended) The conjugate of claim 66 ~~or 67~~, wherein the conjugate further comprises a radionuclide complexed by the chelating compound.

82. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 81, wherein the radionuclide is selected from the group consisting of Cu-64, Ga-67, Ga-68, Re-186, Re-188, Cu-67, Tc-99m, Tc-94, Ru-95 and In-111.

83. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 82, wherein the radionuclide is technetium-99m.